

Message Text

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44

ACTION DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 IO-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SCA-01 SAM-01 SAB-01 AID-05

SR-02 ORM-01 ISO-00 /070 W
----- 110640

O 261338Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1672

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2116

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD IMMEDIATE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PRFOR, IR, IZ, ICRC

SUBJ: ICRC ASSISTANCE IN KURDISH AREAS

REF: A. STATE 067977; B. GENEVA A-79; C. GENEVA 1852

1. PER REQUEST REFTEL MISSION HAS REVIEWED WITH ICRC
CURRENT ISUTATION OF KURDS IN IRAN AND IRAQ.

2. VIEW CONTINUING FLOWS OF IAQI KURDS INTO IRAN AND
DIFFICULTIRES OWING WINTER CONDITIONS FACING THOSE
FOLLOWING NORTHERLY ROUTE TO IRANIAN BORDER, ICRC FEELS
STRONGLY THAT APRIL 1 DEADLINE FOR CLOSURE OF BORDER AND
ENDING AMNESTY SHOULD BE EXTENDED FOR FEW WEEKS PREFERABLY
UNTIL MAY 1. ICRC DIRECTOR OPERATIONS HOCKE INDICATED
THAT COMMITTEE THROUGH ITS CONTACTS WOULD STRIVE FOR
SUCH EXTENSION. ICRC HOPES THAT INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS
WILL ALSO TAKE APPROPRIATE STEPS THROUGH DIPLOMATIC
CHANNELS TO ACHIEVE EXTENSION.

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3. RESPECT KURDISH REFUGEES IN IRAN, ICRC UNDERSTANDS

ADEQUATE CARE AND ASSISTANCE BEING PROVIDED TO THEM BY IRANIAN RED LION AND SUN SOCIETY. ICRC REPORTS THAT AMPLE FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE FOR THIS PURPOSE BY IRANIAN GOVERNMENT.

4. REGRETABLELY, ICRC HAS BEEN OBLIGED TO VIRTUALLY DISCONTINUE ITS EMERGENCY RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY KURDS IN IRAQ AS DESCRIBED REFTEL B AND C OWING DE FACTO CLOSURE OF BORDER TO ICRC TRANSPORTS BY IRAQI AUTHORITIES AND DIFFICULTIES IN ARRANGING DISTRIBUTION. IN FUTURE ICRC TRANSPORTS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO CROSS BORDER WITHOUT SPECIFIC AUTHORITY FROM BAGHDAD AND ICRC NOT OPTIMISTIC ABOUT SECURING SUCH AUTHORITY.

5. ACCORDING HOCHE, ICRC HAS DECIDED AGAINST PARTICIPATION IN ANY REPATRIATION OF KURDISH REFUGEES SHOULD REPATRIATION BE POSSIBLE AND DESIRABLE. ICRC INTENDS NOTIFY IRANIAN AND IRAQI AUTHORITIES OF THIS DECISION SHORTLY.

6. MISSION AWAITING RESULTS OF CURRENT UNHCR VISITATION TO BAGHDAD AND TEHRAN. WILL REPORT ASAP.
DALE

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Message Attributes

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05 JUL 2006

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